

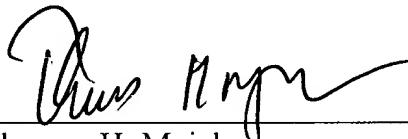
RESPONSE

Pursuant to the Election of Species Requirement of September 23, 2003, received in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Species I, FIGS. 1-5, for consideration on the merits. Currently, claims 1-11, 13, 14 and 21-26 are readable on Species 1. Applicants respectfully point out to the Examiner that claim 27 was presented in a Pre-Examination Amendment filed on October 19, 2001. In view of the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants have withdrawn claim 27 for consideration at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

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